

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

RECEIVED

JUN 24 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Claims 1 to 2 (cancelled)

1
2

Claim 3 (currently amended): A construction liner for American football, comprising an integral liner piece which is compressed and vulcanized from a rubber piece of predetermined thickness and a fabric lining, which has a same shape and size of said rubber piece, until said fabric lining is which is compressed and vulcanized to integrally united unite with said rubber piece to form said an integral liner piece.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The construction liner, as recited in claim 3, wherein each of said construction liners is produced by:

providing cutting a rubber sheet material into an elliptical rubber piece having a predetermined size by cutting from a rubber sheet material;

providing ~~cutting a fabric sheet material into~~ an elliptical fabric lining linings having a same size at least equal to of said rubber piece by cutting from a fabric sheet material;

compressing and vulcanizing said rubber piece and with said fabric lining overlappedly together in a press mold, so as to unite said rubber piece with said fabric lining integrally to form a rubber-based fabric liner; and

cutting said rubber-based fabric liner to a predetermined size to form said construction liner after said fabric liner is cooled down to room temperature.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The construction liner, as recited in claim 4, further comprising an additional fabric lining, wherein said two fabric linings are being attached to both sides of said rubber piece respectively[.], and said two fabric linings and said ~~middle~~ rubber piece positioned between said two fabric linings are overlapped and placed inside an elliptical ~~shaped~~ shape compression groove of said press mold, in which said rubber piece, said fabric linings, and said compression groove have identical shape and size that is larger than the size of said construction liner to be produced.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The construction liner, as recited in claim 3, further comprising an additional fabric lining, wherein said two fabric linings are

integrally attached to both sides of said rubber piece respectively and compressed and vulcanized to integrally unite with said rubber piece to form said integral liner piece.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The construction liner, as recited in claim 3, further comprising an additional rubber piece and an additional fabric lining, wherein said two rubber pieces are placed between said two fabric linings respectively and compressed and vulcanized to integrally unite with said fabric linings to form said integral liner piece.

26 Claim 8 (previously presented): The construction liner, as recited in claim 3, further comprising an additional rubber piece and two more fabric linings, wherein said two rubber pieces are placed between said three fabric linings intervally and compressed and vulcanized to integrally unite with said three fabric linings to form said integral piece.

Claims 9-12 (withdrawn)

Claim 13 (new): An American football, comprising:

a ball cover comprising at least four elliptical cover skins and four construction liners each having a size and shape at least equal to said cover skin, wherein said four construction liners are overlapped on four inner surfaces of said four cover skins respectively to form four cover pieces which are sewn edge to edge together to form said ball cover, wherein each of said construction liners comprises a rubber piece having a predetermined thickness and a fabric lining wherein said rubber piece and said fabric lining are compressed and vulcanized until said fabric lining is integrally united with said rubber piece to form an integral liner piece; and

an inflatable bladder disposed within said ball cover for propping up said ball cover after inflation.

Claim 14 (new): The American football, as recited in claim 13, wherein each of said elliptical cover skins is made of synthetic leather with a backing of foaming material.

Claim 15 (new): The American football, as recited in claim 13, wherein each of said construction liners further comprises an additional fabric lining, wherein said two fabric linings are integrally attached to both sides of said rubber piece respectively and

compressed and vulcanized to integrally unite with said rubber piece to form said integral liner piece.

3
Claim 16 (new): The American football, as recited in claim 13, wherein each of said construction liners further comprises an additional rubber piece and an additional fabric lining, wherein said two rubber pieces are placed between said two fabric linings respectively and compressed and vulcanized to integrally unite with said fabric linings to form said integral liner piece.

Claim 17 (new): The American football, as recited in claim 13, wherein each of said construction liners further comprises an additional rubber piece and two more fabric linings, wherein said two rubber pieces are placed between said three fabric linings interally and compressed and vulcanized to integrally unite with said three fabric linings to form said integral liner piece.
